

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15
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R 031800Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9930
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 0943

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, BR, GY
SUBJECT: GOB-GUYANA RELATIONS: PROPOSED EXCHANGE ON GUYANA

REF: A. GEORGETOWN 126 (NOTAL) B. GEORGETOWN 136 (NOTAL)
C. GEORGETOWN 137 (NOTAL) D. GEORGETOWN 138 (NOTAL)

1. DESPITE INTENSE FOCUS ON MONDALE TRIP AND SPECULATION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE FRG-GOB ACCORD, PRESS HAS BEGUN TO PICK UP ON REPORTS OF GUYANESE AND JAMAICAN OVERTURES TOWARD COMECON. JANUARY 25 O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO'S EDITORIAL COLUMN REFERRED TO GROWING THREAT TO SOUTH ATLANTIC SEALANES POSED BY IDEOLOGICALLY HOSTILE, SOVIET-SUPPORTED GOVERNMENTS IN ANGOLA, GUYANA AND THE CARIBBEAN, WHICH O ESTADO RECALLED FORMER BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT HAD DESCRIBED AS "BRAZIL'S NORTHERN FRONTIER." STRESSING THEME OF AN ENCIRCLED BRAZIL, O ESTADO INDICATED THREAT WAS EVEN GREATER NOW THAT GUYANA AND JAMAICA WERE ABOUT TO ENTER COMECON.

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2. O ESTADO, A KEY CRITIC OF FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA, RAN THIS EDITORIAL ONLY SHORTLY AFTER ITAMARATY REVEALED THAT, IN RECOGNITION OF GROWING IMPORTANCE TO BRAZIL OF CARIBBEAN AREA, IT WAS ESTABLISHING A RESIDENT EMBASSY IN KINGSTON. DURING THE SAME WEEK, O ESTADO AND OTHER MAJOR DAILIES CARRIED BACKGROUNDERS BASED ON ITAMARATY SOURCES TO EFFECT THAT THE IMPENDING REDUCTION OF MEXICO'S PRESENCE IN THE

CARIBBEAN BECAUSE OF RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS AND DOMESTIC PROBLEMS OPENED THE WAY FOR GREATER BRAZILIAN INFLUENCE IN AN AREA OF INCREASING IMPORTANCE TO IT.

3. WE HAVE NOT SOUGHT ITAMARATY VIEWS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GUYANA. IN OUR NEXT SESSION WITH WORKING LEVELS, HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO DRAW ON SOME MATERIALS CONTAINED IN REFTELS TO STIMULATE DIALOGUE, SHARING VIEWS IN BROAD TERMS, AND WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION TO WILLS, ON LIKELY TRENDS IN GOG RELATIONS WITH U.S. BRAZIL, CUBA AND BLOC COUNTRIES.

4. MORE SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING, IF THE OCCASION WARRANTS, IN OUR DISCUSSIONS OF GUYANA SITUATION:

A. INCREASING GUYANESE TENDENCY TO ECHO CUBAN RHETORIC, ITS POSSIBLE MOTIVES AND IMPLICATIONS (REFTEL A);

B. EXTENT OF JAMAICA-GUYANA CONSULTATIONS TO COORDINATE POLICY AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE (REFTEL B), POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CARIBBEAN AREA OF JAMAICAN-GUYANESE ASSOCIATION WITH COMECON;

C. PROFESSED RATIONALE WITHIN GOG FOR BURNHAM'S POLICY TOWARD CUBA AND GOG ALLEGED DETERMINATION NOT TO BECOME CLIENT OF USSR, WHILE SEEKING CLOSER TIES (REFTEL C);

D. WILLS' EXPLANATION FOR CLOSER GOG TIES WITH CUBA AND USSR AND GOG'S UNWILLINGNESS TO PERMIT PERMANENT STATIONING
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OR TRANSIT OF CUBAN TROOPS (REFTEL D);

E. GOG PERCEPTIONS OF THREAT FROM NEIGHBORS (REFTEL D AND OTHERS) AS MOTIVATED BY SUCH DEMONS AS MULTINATIONALS AND SOUTH AFRICA.

5. DO DEPARTMENT OR GEORGETOWN HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO OUR DOING SO?
CRIMMINS

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